Science · Conservancy · Cooperation

Water Quality Task Force

Superior, WI

Our Mission: To assist in the development of science-based water regulation in Wisconsin

Science · Conservancy · Cooperation

American Chemistry Council

MWFPA
Midwest Food Products Association, Inc.

National Waste & Recycling Association
Collect. Recycle. Innovate.
Wisconsin Chapter

Wisconsin Civil Justice Council

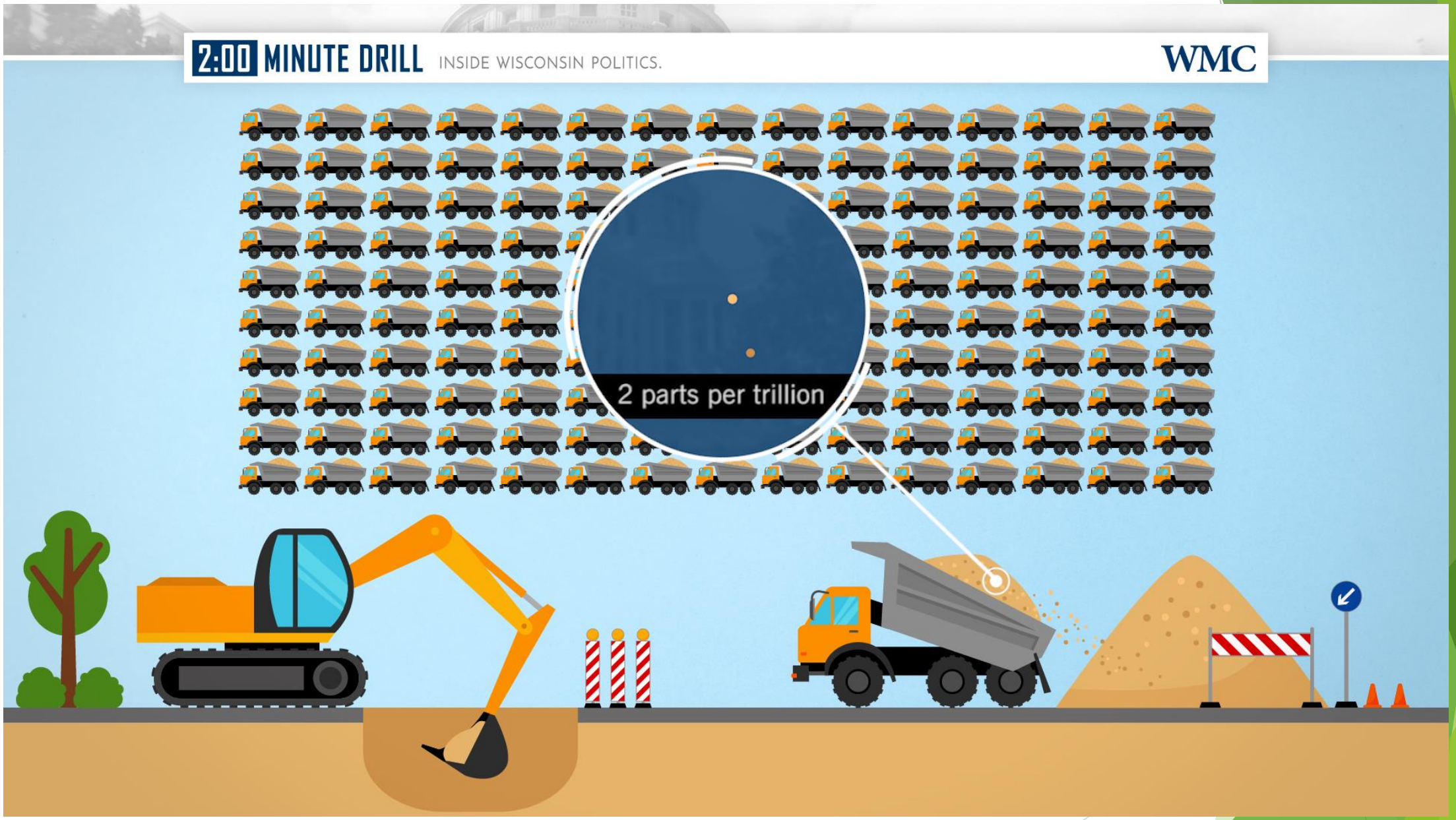
Wisconsin Dairy Alliance

Wisconsin Paper Council

WMC
Wisconsin's Chamber

What we know so far about PFAS

- Wisconsin's process for setting groundwater standards lacks necessary transparency
- There are thousands of different compounds, each with different benefits and risks
- PFAS regulation will impact nearly every industry in the state, including agriculture, paper, and manufacturing. It will directly impact local government and taxpayers statewide


2:00 MINUTE DRILL
INSIDE WISCONSIN POLITICS.
WMC
2 parts per trillion

The State of Technology

- What technology is available?
- Testing and Monitoring Limitations?
- How effective is the technology?
- What is the cost of the technology?
- How do you manage spent media?
- Can technology treat all compounds on WDNR's list?

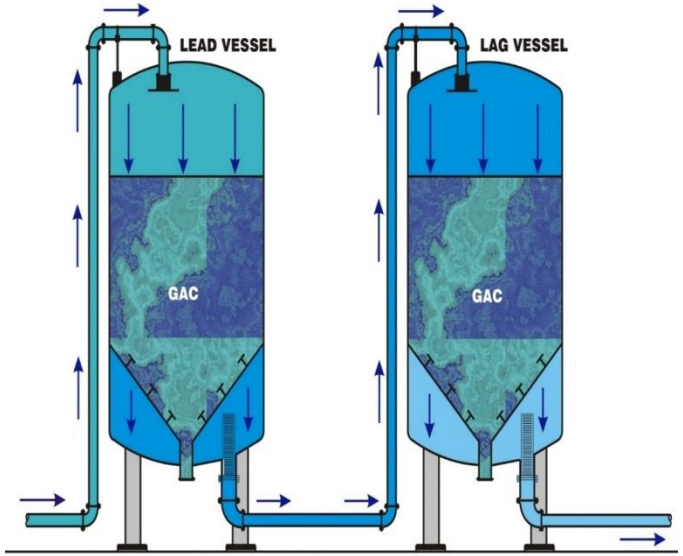
PFAS water treatment

Widely-demonstrated PFAS water treatment technologies

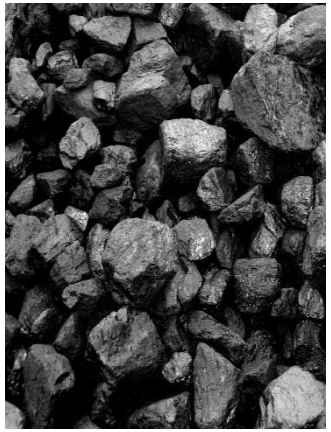
Absorption techniques are currently the most affective treatment

Pre-treatment is usually necessary

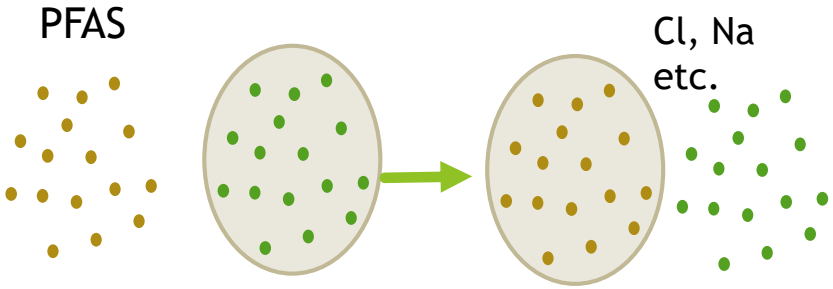
Some compound selectivity



granular activated carbon (GAC)



ion exchange resin (IX)

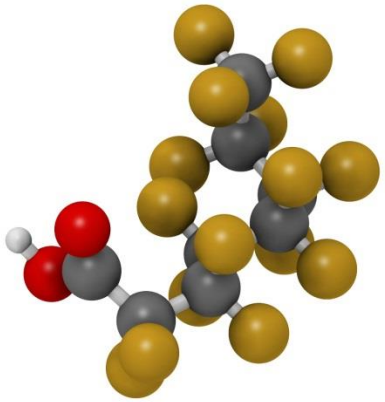


Disposal options

Incineration at high temperatures 350C – 950C is the main technique used for media disposal.

Stabilization research is ongoing.

Other destructive techniques are being researched.



The Economic Impact of a Conservative Standard

Perspective on Drinking Water Standards

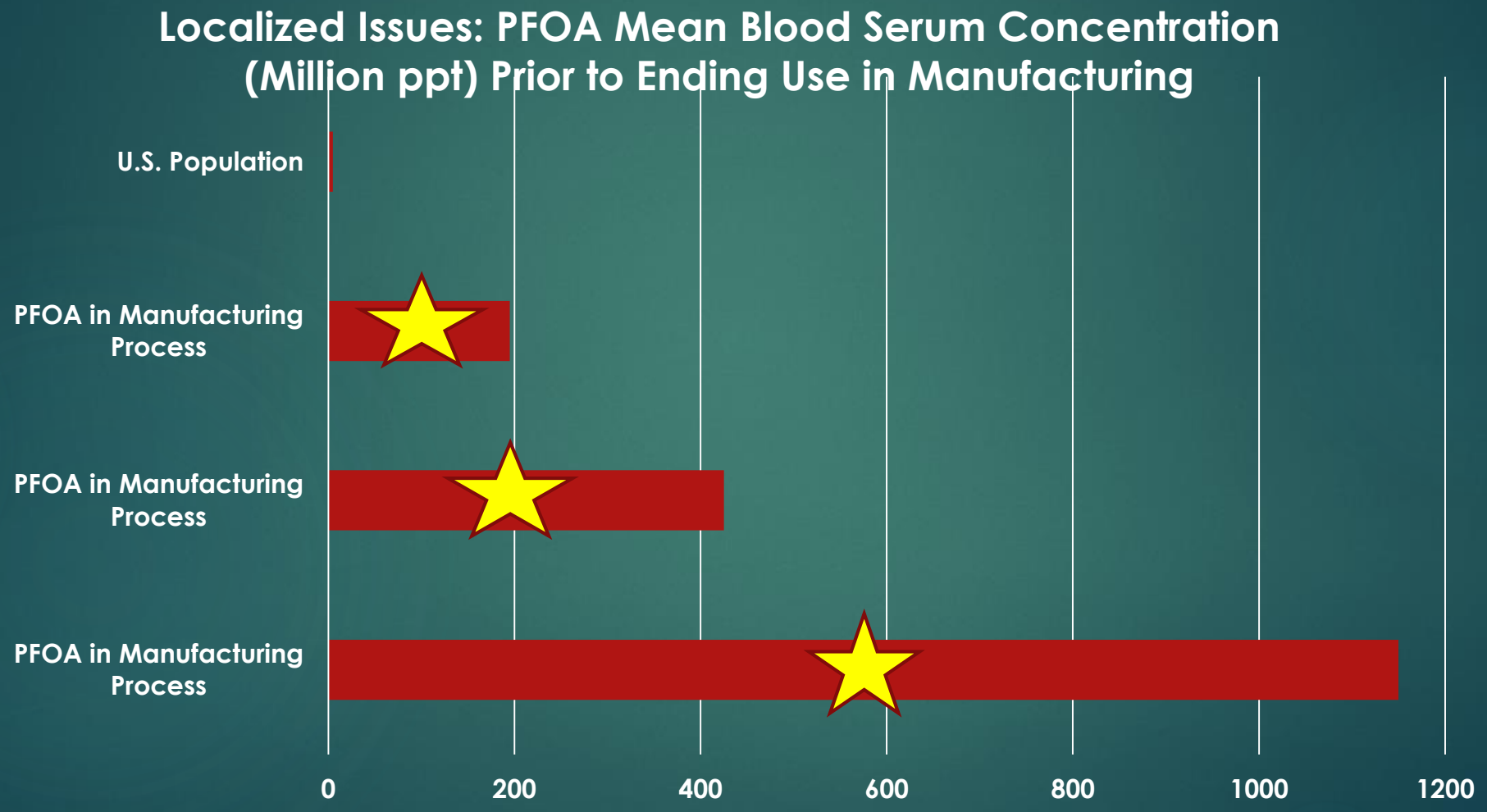
Pollutant	Drinking Water Standard (ppt)
PCBs	500
Arsenic	10,000
Lead	15,000
Cyanide	200,000
PFAS (U.S./WI)	*70/20/2**
PFOA/PFOS (Canada)	*400/600*
PFOA/PFAS (W.H.O.)	*4,000/400*

*EPA Recommendation/WI DHS Enforcement Standard/WI DHS PAL

Estimated Costs

- Paper Mill
  - "Add-on" control costs per facility = $435 - $933 million
  - $3.7 - $25.5 million/lb PFAS removed
- Municipality (150,000 people & 37,500 households)
  - "Add-on" control costs = $11,600 - $25,000/household
  - $3.7 - $25.5 million/lb PFAS removed
- Technologically infeasible

Center for Disease Control



Policy Recommendations

- Develop science needed to understand actual PFAS health risk prior to setting standards
- Focus on 'hotspot' clean-up
- Avoid "One Size Fits All" standards that:
  - Create public alarm
  - Require cost-prohibitive expenditures
  - Result in widespread adverse economic/social impact

Future Coalition Work

- Work with legislators to improve Wisconsin's groundwater standards process to provide:
  - Transparency
  - Accountability
  - Sound science
- Advocate that any regulation or legislation is:
  - Based on science
  - Feasible
  - Protective of human health
  - Not detrimental to Wisconsin's Economy

The Water Quality Taskforce is a resource for you

Questions?

- John Piotrowski, Vice President, Environmental Operations, Packaging Corp of America: jpiotrowski@packagingcorp.com
- Ward Swanson, Vice President and Senior Environmental Scientist, Barr Engineering: wswanson@barr.com
- Lane Ruhland, Director of Environmental and Energy Policy, WMC: lruhland@wmc.org